

Agenda item: PL 1.1 ii)

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**Chairman, Council Working Group on
International Internet-Related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet)**

REPORT OF THE THIRD AND FOURTH MEETINGS OF CWG-INTERNET

Summary

This report summarizes the main results of the third and fourth meetings of CWG-Internet, held on 11-12 November 2013 and on 3-4 March 2014, in line with PP-10 Resolutions 102 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and 140 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and Council Resolutions 1282 (Mod. 2008), 1305 (2009), 1336 (2011), and 1344.

Action required

The Council is invited to **note** the report.

References

[Resolution 102 \(Rev. Guadalajara, 2010\)](#) [Resolution 140 \(Rev. Guadalajara, 2010\)](#)
[Council Resolution 1282 \(Mod. 2008\)](#) , [Resolution 1305 \(2009\)](#) , [Resolution 1336 \(2011\)](#) [Resolution 1344 \(2012\)](#) and [Resolution 75 \(WTSA Dubai, 2012\)](#)

1. Introduction

1.1 CWG-Internet held its third and fourth meetings in Geneva, Switzerland, on 11-12 November 2013 and 3-4 March 2014. This CWG was established as a separate group by Council Resolution 1336, in accordance with Resolutions 102 and 140 of the Plenipotentiary Conference. CWG-Internet is limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders.

1.2 Previously, this Group was established as the Dedicated Group as an integral part of WG-WSIS, open only to Member States, in accordance with Resolution 75 (WTSA, 2008) and Council Resolution 1282 (Mod. 2008).

1.3 The terms of reference for CWG-Internet, specified in Council 2011 Resolution 1336, are to identify, study and develop matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues, including those issues identified in Council Resolution 1305 (2009) and, in this regard, as appropriate:

- a) Disseminate its outputs throughout ITU's membership and to all relevant international organizations and stakeholders actively involved in such matters for their consideration in their policy-making processes;

- b) Consider and discuss the activities of the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux in relation to implementation of Resolution 102 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and prepare inputs into these activities as appropriate; and
- c) Initiate and conduct open consultations with all stakeholders in an open and inclusive manner; and the output of the open consultations will be presented for consideration in deliberations of the Council Working Group.

1.4 Council 2012 Resolution 1344 decided the modality of open consultations for CWG-Internet as the following:

1. CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation.
2. The Group will hold online consultations for all stakeholders with the deadline for response being 1 month before the next meeting of the Group. All responses received will be available to the Group on a dedicated webpage of the CWG-Internet website; in this regard:
 - All stakeholders can submit their responses to a reflector set up by the ITU Secretariat.
 - An email address will be provided to send responses to the ITU Secretariat.
 - All responses received from stakeholders will be posted, without edits, to the CWG-Internet website for consideration in its next meeting.

1.5 Council Resolution 1305 (2009) invites Member States to recognize the scope of work of ITU on international Internet-related public policy matters, represented by the list of topics in Annex 1 which was established in accordance with decisions of ITU membership at the Plenipotentiary Conference, Council and world conferences; and to elaborate their respective position on each of the international Internet-related public policy issues referenced in the list of topics and to contribute actively to the work of ITU on these issues.

2. CWG-Internet activities

2.1. CWG-Internet held its third and fourth meetings as part of its ongoing work in November 2013 and March 2014.

2.2. The Reports of the meetings of CWG-Internet were approved by the Group. The reports are available on the CWG-Internet website:

<http://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-internet/Pages/default.aspx>.

3. Summary of CWG-Internet activities

3.1. Third meeting of CWG-Internet:

1. On behalf of the Secretary-General, Mr Malcolm Johnson, Director, TSB, [welcomed the participants](#) to the third meeting of CWG-Internet. He highlighted that this meeting comes at a time when Internet governance is very much under the spotlight globally. Mr Johnson presented the results of the series of informal consultations called [“The Secretary-General’s Open Talks”](#) on international Internet public policy, focusing on the role of governments in the multistakeholder model of Internet governance. As the key Group within ITU for International Internet-related

public policy issues, the CWG was encouraged to formulate outputs that could guide these further discussions in the lead-up to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

2. The contributions received are available at: <http://www.itu.int/md/S13-RCLINTPOL3-C/en>. The related discussions and outcomes are summarized in the report of the meeting, available at: <http://www.itu.int/md/S13-RCLINTPOL3-C-0010/en>.
3. One of the key outputs of the meeting was the following question sent to all ITU Member States via [Circular Letter 168](#) for their response.

“Recognizing the scope of work of ITU on international Internet-related public policy matters, represented by the list of topics in Council Resolution 1305 Annex 1 which was established in accordance with decisions of ITU membership at the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Council Working Group on International Internet- Related Public Policy invites Member States to provide their position on the following question:

Q1. What actions have been undertaken or to be undertaken by governments in relation to each of the international Internet-related public policy issues identified in Annex 1 to Resolution 1305 (adopted by Council 2009 at the seventh Plenary Meeting)?”

4. Responses to the question were received from 37 Member States, with over half providing opinions on the general nature of the role of governments in Internet governance and all providing specific examples of actions on Internet issues. This is a significant and important contribution to the topic of Internet public policy. The responses will also make an important repository of specific actions that have been and can be taken by governments.
5. The link to the responses can be found at: <http://www.itu.int/md/S14-RCLINTPOL4-INF>.

3.2. Fourth meeting of CWG-Internet:

1. The Secretary-General, Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, welcomed the participants to the fourth meeting of CWG-Internet. He highlighted that this was a particularly important meeting, as it is the last meeting of CWG-Internet prior to PP-14. Dr Touré thanked the membership for its guidance and commitment to the Group, and warmly congratulated the Chairman, Majed Almazayed, for his very able leadership. Dr Touré emphasized that as a key working group within ITU, CWG-Internet is an important component of the overall multistakeholder global dialogue on Internet-related matters – not just within ITU, but also among other forums and deliberations.
2. The contributions received are available at: <http://www.itu.int/md/S14-RCLINTPOL4-C/en>. The related discussions and outcomes are summarized in the report of the meeting, available at: <http://www.itu.int/md/S14-RCLINTPOL4-C-0005/en>.
3. Key outcomes of the fourth meeting include:
 - 3.1 Member States are invited to consider the responses received to the questionnaire in their preparation to the ITU Council and to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

3.2 A repository should be established containing the responses received to the questionnaire included in Circular Letter 168.

3.3 Member States are encouraged to continue submitting their national public policy experiences with respect to the Internet in order to enrich the repository for the benefit of all Member States.

3.4 Member States are also invited to provide regular updates as necessary to this repository.

3.5 The following question was sent to all stakeholders for their response.

“Recognizing the scope of work of ITU on international Internet-related public policy matters, represented by the list of topics in Council 2009 Resolution 1305 Annex 1 which was established in accordance with decisions of ITU membership at the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Council Working Group on International Internet-Related Public Policy invites all stakeholders to provide their position on the following question:

Q1. What actions are to be undertaken by governments in relation to each of the international Internet-related public policy issues identified in Annex 1 to Resolution 1305 (adopted by Council 2009 at the seventh Plenary Meeting)?”

The link to the open consultation page including the received responses to this question can be found at:

<http://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-internet/Pages/consultation-mar2014.aspx>.

4. The Chairman thanked the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, and Directors of BR and BDT for their participation in the meeting. On behalf of the Group, the Chairman expressed his appreciation to all the Member States who responded to the questionnaire contained in Circular Letter 168 related to the issues in Council 2009 Resolution 1305.

4. Conclusion

4.1. On behalf of CWG-Internet, the Chairman extends his personal thanks to all the ITU Member States who made contributions and participated in the work of the Group, the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Directors of TSB, BR and BDT, and the General Secretariat, in particular Mr Preetam Maloor and Ms Despoina Sareidaki, for their efficient assistance during the meetings.

**Chairman: MAJED M. ALMAZYED
(KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA)**
